

CLAIMS:

1. An electronic circuit, capable of terminating a plurality of conductors at, or near, a
5 node on a network, comprising detecting means, operable to detect current in at least
one of the plurality of conductors, and switching means operable to switch the circuit
between being a continuing circuit, upon the detecting means detecting current
greater than a first predetermined threshold, and being a terminating circuit, upon the
detecting means detecting current at, or less than, a second predetermined threshold.
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2. An electronic circuit as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the terminating circuit comprises
impedance matching means.
3. An electronic circuit as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the impedance matching means
15 comprises a terminating resistor connected in series with a terminating capacitor.
4. An electronic circuit as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein the first
threshold is the same as the second threshold.
- 20 5. An electronic circuit as claimed in any of the preceding claims, wherein the detecting
means comprises a sensing resistor, connected in series with the at least one of the
plurality of conductors, and means for detecting voltage across the sensing resistor.

6. An electronic circuit as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the means for detecting voltage is a differential amplifier.
7. An electronic circuit as claimed in any of the preceding claims wherein the switching
5 means comprises a transistor.
8. An electronic circuit as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the transistor comprises a base terminal connected to an output of the detecting means.
- 10 9. An electronic circuit as claimed in Claims 7 or 8, wherein the transistor comprises a collector terminal, connected to the impedance matching means, and an emitter terminal connected to the, or each, of the other conductors.
10. A node comprising an electronic circuit as claimed in any of the preceding claims.
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11. A node as claimed in Claim 10, further comprising checking means operable, upon the detecting means detecting current at, or less than, the second predetermined threshold, to check the status of the conductors connected to an adjacent node.
- 20 12. A network comprising at least one electronic circuit as claimed in any of the preceding claims.
13. A network as claimed in Claim 12, comprising a plurality of power supplies operable to provide current flowing in opposing directions through the network.